

ONTARIO BIRD BANDING ASSOCIATION

NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER MEETING

The November meeting of the O.B.B.A. will be held on Tuesday November 12th, at the home of Geoff Holroyd, 225 Sheldon Avenue, Toronto. Turn South off the Q.E. on Highway 27, then east on Palermo one block beyond the first traffic light. Sheldon is the second turning North off Palermo. The main feature of the programme will be a showing of slides of uncommon species and unusual plumages principally from Pelee and Long Point, contributed by members.

FUTURE PROGRAMMES

Future meetings will be held the second Tuesday of each month (February excepted) as last year. It is planned to have a few skins illustrating some point of interest brought to each meeting and also to include a brief literature review. As main features of the December and January meetings it is hoped to cover the subjects of parasitology and meteorology in relation to birds.

Tentative plans have been made to hold the annual meeting on Saturday February 8th at the Royal Ontario Museum. Details will be announced in due course. Members wishing to present papers at the meeting should inform the Secretary as early as possible.

REPORT ON OCTOBER MEETING

The October meeting of the O.B.B.A. was held at the home of John Roberts at 8 p.m. Tuesday, October 8th. Twelve members and guests attended.

Don Baldwin reviewed the F.O.N. workshop weekend held at the L.P.B.O., September 21st/22nd. The workshop which was conducted by O.B.B.A. members included an organized programme in the mornings and on Saturday evening, with afternoons free for the pursuit of individual interests. Applications were considerably in excess of the eleven that could be conveniently taken. The weather was excellent, birds rather few but sufficient for demonstration of trapping, handling, banding and censusing techniques. A lighthouse kill of some magnitude had occurred Thursday night, stimulating interest in this aspect of the observatory's studies. The fall wildflowers were at their height. These, the McClearys' cooking and the Ansleys' hospitality contributed materially to the success of the weekend. A future plan is to try and get nature clubs to sponsor suitable delegates from their membership to such events. It is hoped that additional interest in participation in O.B.B.A. stations and related activity will be awakened. Harry Gadd who was present at the workshop as a "student" thought the weekend very successful and predicted increased future interest. He expressed surprise at the smallness of the \$10 fee and felt that a somewhat higher charge would be in order.

REPORT OF OCTOBER MEETING CONTINUED

Long Point operations were next discussed. Don Baldwin noted that the point area had continuous coverage for three weeks and the breakwater concurrently for two. Some interesting records of birds lingering on the Point were obtained. Nothing much had been done on construction. However the propane heater at the point is now ready to go and 2 work weekends were planned in the near future. Particular attention is being given to the interior of the new building at the Point and outside paint at the Breakwater. It is anticipated that repairs to the Heligoland Traps will be necessary. Some 50 Sharpshins were banded this fall including one taken at the point and retrapped 5 days later at the Breakwater. John Miles commented on observing 500 Sharpshins heading east on September 17th.

Don commented on the plantings of coniferous trees. Those in area 1 were progressing satisfactorily but the breakwater plantings have perished. Marshall Field had written Don regarding a certain lack of cooperation on the part of Lands and Forests in regard to his duck banding activities. The success of these in the early part of the season was commented upon once again.

John Roberts briefly reviewed the fall operations at Pelee. The station was covered continuously for three weeks from September 14th and particular attention was given to trapping, weighing and measuring sharpshins. Some 320, including 20 adults were banded and have provided some promising data.

Commenting on activities and the Island School Don Baldwin noted that Terry Carr is now Assistant Supervisor at the new Albion Hills conservation school and is planning to set up a banding operation there. The Island School banding is being continued by Charles Hopkins.

Attention was drawn to a new publication on the Birds of the Detroit, Windsor Area (including Pelee and Rondeau) based on a 10 year study by the Detroit Audubon Society. It is published by the Cranbrook Institute (Your Secretary has a few copies available at \$1 each).

Bruce Westcott brought greetings from Russ Rutter who reports a paucity of birds migrating through Algonquin Park this fall.

John Miles reported a cockroach problem at the L.P.B.O. breakwater cottage. Bob Ferguson, fisheries officer for Lake Erie was said to have drawn attention to heavy parasitization of dead Ring-billed Gulls picked up at Wheatley by trematodes.

Dave Hussell had just returned from a trip to England, he had visited the Dungeness Bird Observatory and found little change since his last visit. They have 9 Heligoland Traps, some of them quite low. Weighing and measuring is carried out on some birds usually the first drive. They employ a permanent warden. A new lighthouse there uses an intermittent beacon which appears not to attract birds.

INTERESTING RETRAPS AND RECOVERIES

<u>Band No.</u>	<u>Species</u>	<u>Date Banded</u>	<u>Approx. Place Banded</u>	<u>Date Taken</u>	<u>Approx. Place Taken</u>
606-84516	Ring-necked duck (A♂)	Oct. 27-62	LPBO	Feb. 22-63	Edenton N.C. (4)
657-75761	Mallard (♂)	Nov. 24-62	LPBO	Dec. 12-62	Mitchells' Bay, Ontario (1)
657-75738	Mallard (A♂)	Nov. 11-62	LPBO	Dec. 27-62	Sumter, S.C. (1)
657-75665	Mallard (A♀)	Oct. 2-62	LPBO	1962	Wetumpka, Ala (1)
657-75749	Mallard (A♀)	Nov. 11-62	LPBO	Dec. 29-62	Camp Peary, Va (1)
657-75699	Mallard (I♀)	Oct. 28-62	LPBO	Dec. 27-62	Williamsburg, Va. (1)
623-21555	Am. Woodcock	Apr. 26-62	LPBO area 2	Nov. 1-62	Conneaut, Pa. (1)
27-136021	Y-B Sapsucker (♂)	Apr. 15-61	LPBO area 2	Feb. 19-62	Gainsville, Fla (1)
102-00642	House Wren	May 12-62	LPBO area 2	Feb. 1963	Needville, Texas (3)
26-91673	B-C Chickadee	May 20-62	PPBO area 2	Apr. 24-63	PPBO area 2 (4)
26-91673	B-C Chickadee	May 20-62	PPBO area 2	May 21-63	LPBO area 1 (4)
542-17308	Brown Thrasher	May 14-60	PPBO	Apr. 29-63	Montreal, Que. (1)
58-123321	Brn-hdd Cowbird (I♂)	Sept 1-61	LPBO area 1	Jan. 1962	Pine Bluff, Arkansas (2)
58-123224	Brn-hdd Cowbird (♂)	May 27-61	LPBO	Feb. 4-1962	La France, S.C. (4)
542-07366	Redwing Blackbird (♀)	May 12-62	LPBO	Dec. 16-62	Columbia, S.C. (1)
623-22523	Grackle	Apr. 26-62	LPBO	Summer - 62	Bolton, Ont. (3)
623-95665	Grackle	May 13-61	Toronto(5)	Mar. 8-63	Morehead, Ky (1)
32-16364	S.C. Junco	Apr. 24-62	LPBO area 2	Feb. 19-63	Ivy, Va. (4)

- (1) Shot
- (2) Killed by weather conditions
- (3) Found dead
- (4) Trapped & released
- (5) Bander Harold Richards.

Details of any additional recent retraps or recoveries of general interest which you may have should be given to the secretary for publication. Gull returns because of their abundance are not included unless of outstanding interest.

CONTRIBUTIONS

Issue number 2 of OBBA contributions will be available shortly and will be mailed to all paid-up members. Notification to members who have not paid their 1963 dues is enclosed herewith. The forthcoming issue of contributions includes the 1960/61 report for the LPBO. It is planned to publish contributions biannually starting in 1964, one issue including primarily annual station reports and the other papers presented at the annual meeting.